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Abstract of the Disclosure

Methods and apparatus are provided for facilitating the sale and distribution of handmade rugs. High resolution images are obtained of rugs in the inventories of many rug merchants. The rugs are classified based on their age, size, color, condition, layout, pattern, the type of pile and foundation materials, the knot, their overall design, and where they were made. Then the images and attribute data are stored in a database. The database may be searched based on the attributes. Alternatively, searches may be performed graphically.